Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 FRB-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 IOE-00 /082 W

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O R 151721Z JAN 77 FM AMEMBASSY PARIS TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8775 INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 0292 USMISSION USUN IMMEDIATE USMISSION GENEVA

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USUN FOR USDEL 23RD UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: UNDP, EAID, FR

SUBJECT: UNDP-US INITIATIVES ON USE OF ACCUMULATED

NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCIES

REFS: A. STATE 006775 B. STATE 006774 C. PARIS 30570

1. JANUARY 14, WE LEFT AIDE-MEMOIRE AND DRAFT US PROPOSAL (REF A) WITH DANIEL BERNARD, UN ECONOMIC AFFAIRS QUAI OFFICER RESPONSIBLE FOR UNDP. HE WAS PLEASED TO RECEIVE SUCH A COMPREHENSIVE RESPONSE TO HIS PREVIOUS INQUIRY (REF C). OWING TO SHORT TIME REMAINING BEFORE UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL SESSION, BERNARD SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CABLE OUR PROPOSALS TO FRENCH DELEGATION IN NEW YORK AND FOLLOW THIS WITH FONOFF COMMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS AS SOON AS THESE WERE AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK.

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2. AFTER OUR PRESENTATION OF REF B TALKING POINTS AND QUICK READ-THROUGH OF AIDE-MEMOIRE, BERNARD GAVE INITIAL REACTION AS FOLLOWS: (A) US PROPOSAL IS QUOTE INGENIOUS UNQUOTE, AND CERTAINLY WORTH TRYING; (B) SOVIETS AND OTHER COMMUNIST PARTICIPANTS ARE VIRTUALLY SURE TO REACT AS NEGATIVELY TO OUR FORMAL PROPOSAL ON UNDP'S ACCUMULATED NON-CONVERTIBLE

CURRENCIES AS THEY DID TO OUR LESS COMPREHENSIVE INFORMAL ONE RAISED DURING JUNE 1976 GOVERNING COUNCIL

MEETING; (C) THIS URRECEPTIVENESS WILL CONTINUE TO BE BASED ON WHAT RUSSIANS SEE AS SERVICE TO THEIR OWN INTERESTS INHERENT IN UNDP BUILD-UP OF STOCK OF NON-CONVERTIBLE COMMUNIST CURRENCIES WHICH IN END WILL HAVE TO BE UTILIZED BY UNDP RECIPIENT COUNTRIES IN EITHER BUYING COMMUNIST GOODS AND SERVICES OR --PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT -- IN SENDING TRAINEES TO RUSSIA AND EAST EUROPE; AND (D) NEW US PROPOSAL, HOWEVER, DOES HAVE ONE IMPORTANT ADVANTAGE OVER LAST JUNE'S INFORMAL PROPOSAL, VIZ: IT CONTAINS MECHANISM (RECIPIENT COUNTRY-PURCHASE OF NON-CONVERTIBLE FUNDS) WHICH MIGHT BE ABLE TO EXPLOIT GROWING RESERVOIR OF LDC DISSATISFACTION WITH FINANCIAL STRINGS WHICH SOVIETS AND EAST EUROPEANS INSIST ON TYING TO THEIR UN CONTRIBUTIONS.

3. IN ASKING FOR FAVORABLE GOF CONSIDERATION OF OUR PROPOSAL, WE STRESSED THAT SUPPORT FOR IT WAS NOT COMMITMENT TO PARTICIPATE IN PURCHASE/SUBSTITUTION PROGRAMS. BERNARD SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THIS, AND ADDED THAT, WHILE HE WAS IN NO POSITION TO GIVE ANY INDICATION OF WHAT FORMAL GOF REACTION WOULD BE, HE WAS SURE OUR PROPOSAL WOULD RECEIVE CAREFUL STUDY. GAMMON

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